



Brisbane City Division Vulnerable Persons Strategy



The Brisbane City Division is committed to pursuing the continuous improvement of policing services provided to vulnerable people, consistent with the following ambitions stated in the QPS Vulnerable Persons Policy. Brisbane City Division Police are actively seeking better ways of providing a safe and secure environment for all members of the community.

Ambitions

The QPS will seek to:

1. Reduce crime against vulnerable people and hold offenders accountable for their actions.
2. Support vulnerable people to understand and participate in criminal justice system processes.
3. Treat vulnerable people with dignity, respecting their individual needs, challenges and circumstances.
4. Facilitate access by vulnerable people to appropriate support services, including support persons and victim assistance.

Purpose

The BCD Vulnerable Persons Strategy (VPS) aims to coordinate, develop and foster local activities and initiatives that align services with the QPS Vulnerable Persons Policy.



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Goals

The goals of the Brisbane City Division VPS include:

- Encourage a supportive communicative approach by police to vulnerable persons in the City Division
- Develop networks for referrals, activities and initiatives targeting vulnerable persons,
- Maximise the “first to see” nature of GD policing as a starting point for change and referral when dealing with vulnerable persons,
- Raise the QPS profile amongst the vulnerable persons support agencies and welfare community,
- Increase the operational linkage between support agencies, NGO’s and welfare oriented Departments,
- Provide problem solving, community based activities for GD police to develop personal perspective to issues involving vulnerable persons in the CBD,
- Develop opportunities to appropriately exchange information, coordinate activities and develop initiatives in partnership with agencies associated with vulnerable persons.

Senior officers attend local homeless oriented meetings, park users meetings, conferences, community planning workshops and consultation with agencies to increase the QPS local influence and stake in the service provision community.



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Operational activities, good practice programs, initiatives and partnerships that relate or may affect vulnerable persons in the Brisbane City Division

Project/ initiative name	Stakeholders	Details
J.U.S.T. Joined Up Street Team Youth Outreach	QPS, PLO'S, CITY GD STAFF, Brisbane Youth Service, Street Gang Project	Joined Up Street Team patrols consisting of first response officers, CPIU Officers, culturally specific PLO's and youth workers shall seek out youth at risk at peak times at the locations where youth gather in the CBD to connect, divert and engage otherwise service resistant young people.
Homeless Support Profile	QPS, CITY GD, BIKE SQUAD	The Homeless Support Profile was commenced in May 2009 after development and consultation with Brisbane Central District police, BCC Community Services Workers and several local homeless services. The intention is to: <i>"develop rapport, gather information and improve the police response to homeless persons by increasing the communication between general duties police and homeless persons through the Homeless Support Profile."</i> First response police complete a welfare and referral based profile on all homeless and at risk persons which is uploaded to QPRIME and forms the basis of tailored response, identification of risk and improved referral. HSP's are refreshed as the opportunities arise or as a homeless person is identified at risk in the CBD.
50 Homes 50 lives	QPS, Micah, Qld Housing, Qld Communities.	QPS supports and OIC City is a member of the 50/50 project identifying the first 50 most vulnerable homeless persons and case managing them into housing. City police assist with locating, conducting interventions for service resistant persons and attend weekly case management meetings.
Youth Homeless Referral	Brisbane Youth Service – QPS, City GD, PLO's Bike Squad	GD Officers note young people living in public space in the inner city complete a referral form and e mail to BYS. BYS endeavour to respond i.e. visit site within 48 hours complete second section of referral form and email to support services and commence further case management or individual action as deemed appropriate.



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Project/ initiative name	Stakeholders	Details
Transport Alternatives Preventing Trouble TAPT	City GD Police, Youth Gang Project, Translink	Partnership between Queensland Police and Translink where transport vouchers are provided to GD police to issue to young people and persons at risk of rough sleeping and offending behaviour should they be stranded in the CBD.
Project Patch	City GD Police – Brisbane Housing Company, Qld Housing, QUT.	Case management of low cost housing, boarding houses and hostels to support safe and stable accommodation for persons making the transition from sleeping rough. GD Police are appointed as case officers from buildings which become their “patch” as they attend house meetings, conduct crime prevention and engagement activities, keep detailed information regarding CAD and occurrence history and work closely with residents and rental management to maintain stable and safe housing.
Beat the Cops	City Police, Time Zone, Albert park Flexi School	At the commencement of each school holidays police engage and interact with youth at risk at Time Zone games centre playing video games and team games (at no cost sponsored by Time Zone)
Postman Pat	City Police, DCPC	Police conduct door knocks of crime hot spots seeking to identify vulnerable premises and persons, increasing face to face engagement and promoting a personal response to local issues.
Street to Home Reference Group	City Police, West End Police, PAH Beat Police, MICAH, Qld Housing, BCC, MHOT	Monthly reference group meeting to coordinate assessment and housing of vulnerable persons across Brisbane.